

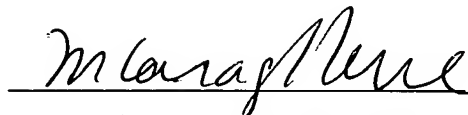
REMARKS

The present application has been amended to recite that it is the national stage filing of corresponding international application number PCT/EP03/05761, filed June 2, 2003, which claims priority of the European application no. EP 02012531.6, filed June 5, 2002. Claims 1-16 are pending in PCT application no. PCT/EP03/05761. Claims 10 and 14-16 have been cancelled. Claims 17-19 are newly added claims. Claims 1-3, 5-7, 9, 11 and 13 have been amended and comply with 35 USC § 112. No fee is believed to be due with the filing of this Amendment. However, if any fees are deemed necessary, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2168.

Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 3, 2004



M. Caragh Noone, Reg. No. 37,197

Bracco Research USA

305 College Road East

Princeton, NJ 08540

Tel: (609) 514-2454

Fax: (609) 514-2446

MCN/pjg